

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments relate to the claims amended under Article 34. If the Examiner has any questions concerning the amendment or the above-identified application in general, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned so as to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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Marked-up Claims 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, and 14

3. (Amended) A process according to Claim 1 [or 2], wherein the transition metal is manganese, iron, cobalt, nickel, copper or vanadium.
4. (Amended) A process according to [any one of Claims 1-3] Claim 1, wherein the complexing agent is a nitrogen-containing compound.
6. (Amended) A process for oxidising a carbohydrate with an oxidising agent in the presence of a nitrosonium ion as a catalyst, *characterised* in that the nitrosonium ion is produced by the process according to [any one of Claims 1-5] Claim 1.
8. (Amended) A process according to [any one of Claims 1-7] Claim 1, wherein a carbonyl-containing carbohydrate containing at least 1 cyclic monosaccharide chain group carrying a carbaldehyde group per 25 monosaccharide units and per average molecule is produced.
9. (Amended) A process according to [any one of Claims 1-8] Claim 1, wherein the carbohydrate is a hydroxyalkylated carbohydrate or a glycoside.
14. (Amended) A carbohydrate according to Claim 12 or [13] Claim 12, further containing carboxyl and/or carboxymethyl groups.